The Congregational Way

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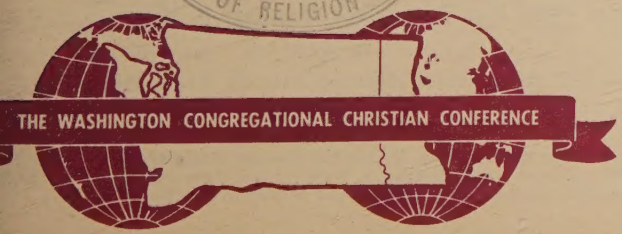

The Congregational Way

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"THOSE THINGS WHICH WE HAVE LEFT UNDONE"

Archie W. Hook

Minister and Superintendent

How we all like to tell what we have done. In a recent football game, the coach used nineteen of his squad during the sixty minutes of play. Some of the second string men were only in the game for a minute or two but the nineteen players won. In the dressing room after the game the coach said, "It was a great game. I am proud of every man. I hope each of you will tell your girl this evening what you did to win the game because next Monday at practice I will tell you what you didn't do."

If it weren't for the encouragement of things done, no one could carry on long. The occasional singing of our own and one another's praises is a justifiable stimulant but with it must go the constant reminder "that all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." It is easy to be aware of and concerned about the things one has done amiss—the sins of commission; but among the readers of these lines there is probably equal reason for concern over the sins of omission—"those things which we have left undone."

There is comparatively little evidence among our churches of flagrant wrongdoing but what is to be said about sins of omission. A church council, board or any committee could spend a very profitable evening in discussing and then listing first, all that has been accomplished in 1952; and then in another column "those things which we have left undone" in 1952. An honest study and evaluation of these lists should prompt action that would greatly improve the 1952 picture before December 31 and pave the way for a still better 1953.

News of the Churches

WARDEN . . .

Installation services for the Rev. E. R. Madson were held at the Community Congregational Church on September 28. Those participating in the service included Dr. Archie H. Hook; Rev. R. K. Anderson; Rev. Albert Hausauer; Rev. F. Wm. Westwood; Rev. Don Fitzaimmons and Rev. Emil Klein.

Five women attended the semi-annual meeting of the Women's Fellowship in Yakima, and ten of the church school teachers attended the Christian Education Institute at Odessa. The church has accepted its quota for the Church Building Loan Fund campaign, and plans are being made for remodeling the sanctuary and the addition of educational facilities.

ABERDEEN . . .

Members of the Aberdeen church have recently been presented with a challenge that will determine whether the church moves forward or backward. One of the members has said that he would match any funds the church can raise to a maximum of $12,500 to be spent in making the church building more modern, attractive, livable and inviting.

Activities at the church include a fellowship dinner on October 8 and plans for a bazaar on November 13. Rev. Forrest Byers is minister.

VERA . . .

The Rev. Frank Sturtevant reports plans for the church to hold a Preaching Mission the first week of November. Guest minister for the Mission will be Rev. Robert Satterfield of the Colfax church.

CUSICK-USK . . .

The sanctuary of the Cusick building has been redecorated and rededicated. Work began last spring when pews were secured and repainted in a rich brown. Ladies of the Aid recovered the pew cushions in a complimentary shade. During the summer Mr. Trafford Burnett constructed the altar, box pulpit and chancel rail. The altar has been finished in a cream color and a blue carpet laid down the center isle. An altar set of a 24 inch brass cross and matching candlesticks was purchased. Services of dedication featured a litany written by the minister, Rev. Melvin Fenner.

A school bus has been given to the church for its use in transporting children back and forth between the two communities for church school.

A Woman's Fellowship has been organized with 21 charter members and a full schedule of monthly programs, using women of the parish and materials from the conference and national fellowship have been planned.

LOWELL . . .

The Rev. James F. Estes is now serving as minister of the Lowell church, and there are reports of interesting activities this fall, with young people displaying enthusiasm. Mr. Estes comes to our conference from Iowa, and we welcome him to our fellowship.

SPOKANE, HILLYARD . . .

The Rev. Stephen Ayers of Spokane is serving as interim minister of the Hillyard church.

OKANE, WESTMINSTER . . .

Elmer E. Freed

The Rev. Elmer E. Freed is serv-g as Interim Minister of the West-nster Church. Dr. and Mrs. Freed me to Spokane from Glencoe, inois, where they had a similar signment. Dr. Freed is a graduate the McCormick Seminary, Chi-go, and has served Presbyterian urches in Ohio, Colorado, and inois. In September of 1951 the eeds went to Glencoe, Illinois, an interim assignment, and they me to Spokane from this responsi-lity.

EER PARK . . .

Installation services for the Rev. orge Snyder will be held at the en Door church on Sunday, Nov-ber 9. A dedication service for e new parsonage to be completed then will also be held on the n. Mr. Snyder came to Washington m Ohio in July to be minister of is church.

SEATTLE, PILGRIM . . .

Breakfast at Church was one of the highlights of the Religious Education Week observance of Pilgrim Church. Families were invited to join in this fellowship experience and learned of the plans of the church for their children this fall. While the children were being cared for, following the breakfast period, the adults were introduced to the theme of Bible study for this quarter by the teachers and Miss Mora Collins, the director of religious education. Families were given copies of the Family Book—the Bible Quiz Book, and both parents and children shared in a worship experience which featured a dedication service for all who would be working in the religious education program this year. The service was conducted by Rev. O. W. Jefferson, minister.

WALLACE . . .

The Rev. Elmer Nourse reports the most encouraging aspect of the fall work at the Wallace church is the Pilgrim Fellowship program. Two groups a junior high and senior are organized and seven adult persons are working with these groups.

The organ rebuilding project has almost been completed and the chimes are enjoyed by the community. Dedication services for the organ and chimes will be on November 2.

The family night programs got underway on October 13 with a feature of fellowship and movies.

ODESSS . . .

The Rev. F. William Westwood reports that Maas Chimes, a gift of the Zagelow family in memory of their mother, Martha Zagelow, were dedicated at the morning service of the English Congregational Church on October 5.

EVERETT . . .

"Tower Tidings" reports several items denoting progress at the Everett Church. The church itself was painted this summer, and it looks grand. Two morning services are being held this fall and attendance for the two services increased more than 50% over one service last year. Church school enrollment has increased. The women have done a renovating job on the kitchen and are purchasing new robes for the choir.

The first family night program was held on October 26 and was sponsored by the church school which presented the all church project of a Bible Exhibit. Rev. George Halstead is minister of the church.

VANCOUVER . . .

Work crews have been busy on Wednesday evenings in Bradford Hall of the Congregational Church, where a fresh and rosy coat of paint has been applied with a lot of fellowship mixed in. Two other activities in October created interest for the community—on October 21 a Candidates' Dinner was given for the purpose of becoming a better informed voter in the November election; and on October 24 the various circles of the Women's Fellowship sponsored a pre-Christmas fair. Rev. Wade L. Carter is minister.

BELLINGHAM STUDENT WORK

W. Carl Calhoun

The hope of many years is realized this fall in the religious work program at Western Washington College of Education in Bellingham. The cooperating churches of the city, long dissatisfied with their attempts to conduct active student groups in each church, realized that only a united effort could be effective. They also agreed that the program must be centered near the college campus itself, since most of the churches are a long distance away.

Five denominations, comprising eight local churches, are joining this year in the employment of a full-time religious leader—Rev. William E. Hallman, a Presbyterian minister formerly of Moses Lake where he was president of the Council of Churches and an active leader in inter-church work. The Hallman family will live in a large house only two blocks from the campus which will serve not only as their home, but also as a center for the activities of the "United Student Christian Foundation."

Methodist, Presbyterian and Congregational groups are contributing to the financial program from their Conference, Synodical, or National organizations. The local Baptist and Christian churches are also taking part.

The program is not intended to replace completely the work that local churches will carry on with students. Sundays are left free for this purpose, and students will be encouraged in every way to participate in the work of their own church. But projects of study, activity, service, fellowship, and extension will be undertaken by the united group which should prove more effective than anything done previously.

THE WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Mrs. C. L. Williams
Missionary Education Secretary

Each year our denomination, in cooperation with many others and under the leadership of the Joint Commission on Missionary Education of the National Council, prepares and publishes a remarkable set of books for all ages on two themes, one home and one foreign. These themes are selected several years in advance in order to get the cooperation of the finest authors and artists and the preparation of material well suited to the local church needs.

These themes enable us to make a combined all-church study while at the same time offering special materials for each age group according to their interests.

The 1952-53 foreign theme is "Africa" and the home theme is "Human Rights." Women's Fellowship groups will be especially interested in the adult study books.

"Africans on Safari" by Sayre and "African Heritage" by Ross will give a wonderful picture of the work in this area. "Africa on the March" prepared by our own Mission Board gives a picture of the work we are doing in Africa. It tells us where our work is and gives us something from each field with a complete list of our missionaries on the field. The Larry Hendersons have just returned to Lobita, Angola, after being home on furlough. The Hendersons are especially dear to us because they went to Africa from our own conference.

Other missionaries from our conference are Mary Ingle in Greece, Alice Gwin in Japan and the Paul Pruitts in the Philippines.

"These Rights We Hold" by Brownlee; "Human Crisis in the Kingdom of Coal" by Smith; and "Accent on Liberty" by Sheibley give us a real insight into the situation in our own country. We would all profit by the study of this theme Home Missions and Human Rights, and I am sure we would come to feel our responsibility as we have not done. In the booklet, "Is it Nothing to You," Miss Ione Catton tells of the work of our church in this area. This material can be used as a dramatic skit and interesting illustrations we can use in our fellowship groups.

One of the most interesting ways to learn of the work of our missionaries is to subscribe to the "Letter of the Month" ($1.00, Missions Council, 14 Beacon Street, Boston 8, Mass.). These are the first hand reports from the missionaries about their work, and they give us a better understanding of their responsibilities and possible ways in which we can assist.

Additional information on Missionary Education for your group may be secured from your missionary education secretary at South 2916 Fiske Street; Spokane 34, Washington.

Our Church Building Loan Fund

Dean Edward H. Lauer, Moderator of the Washington Conference, and Chairman of the Conference Committee for the Church Building Loan Fund Campaign.

For the Conference Committee on the Church Building Loan Fund Campaign it will be of interest to have me report on our progress. While we are not as far advanced as we should be, organization is well under way and we are proceeding to the real task which we have assumed. The Conference has been divided into ten areas, with a committee of three for each area, and promotional work is being done.

Local church organization has not been completed, and it is our hope that each church will follow through with the appointment of a committee of three; the minister, a layman and a laywoman, to promote this campaign. The names and addresses of these committees should be sent to the Conference Office, and also to Dr. Stanley U. North, 432 Mason Street, San Francisco 2, California. It is a pleasure for me to report that the honor of being the first of our churches to report its committee goes to the Japanese church in Seattle. Our hats are off to our good friend, the Reverend Ai Chih Tsai and his people. All of us must help do this job.

Area meetings for local and area committees are being held the last of October through the first week of November, with Dr. Stanley North, area director, as special guest.

Dr. Stanley U. North, Pacific Coast Director of the Church Building Loan Fund campaign, visited Washington Conference from October 22–November 4.

We must use every means to stimulate local churches to their responsibility and opportunity. And we can do it! As Dr. North says, We have the numerical strength that is essential. We have the means to bear our share of the load. It would be enheartening to the entire campaign if the response of the West Coast could be an enthusiastic affirmative. Here a large proportion of the Building Society's resources have been allocated in recent years. Here is the area of continuing greatest need. Here is the locale of greatest opportunity. For purely selfish reasons we of the West Coast must make this campaign a splended success. But I would hope that our conduct would be in keeping with the Pilgrim tradition, idealistic, courageous, bold, not counting the cost but beholding the gain for the generations to come in the America that is yet to be."

The Rev. Howard S. Anderson (left) president of the Board of Home Missions of the Congregational Christian Churches and pastor of the Scarsdale, N. Y. church, accepts the first check received in a nationwide Church Building Loan Fund Campaign on behalf of the Board of Home Missions from the Rev. Albert D. Stauffacher, national director of the campaign. The event marked the official opening of the drive in which the churches hope to raise $4,500,000. William K. Wilson, New York, publicity director for the campaign; Mrs. Henry W. Schneider, Grand Rapids, Mich., vice president of the Board of Home Missions, and the Rev. Truman B. Douglass, New York, executive vice president of the Board of Home Missions witness the opening ceremonies which took place at 287 Fourth Avenue, New York City, national headquarters of the demonination.

Laymen's Fellowship

Fred Hockert

This last month an opportunity has been given our churches to share in a campaign to raise $4,500-000 for the Church Building Loan Fund. Goals have been suggested. Manuals have been printed. National and state committees appointed. Meetings have been arranged. A wonderful array of prominent and important people of our denomination are working as national and area directors. But all this will be effort wasted unless we, the laymen, in the local churches get behind this campaign 100%. It is a vital thing for our denomination. But it cannot succeed unless the laymen take upon themselves the burden of raising their local quotas. This means extra work on our part, extra giving on our part.

By enthusiastically doing our part in this campaign we will set an example for other organizations and people to follow. When the call comes be ready, study the material, serve on a committee. Then, two years hence when the campaign has succeeded, as it surely will, we will know that it has because we did our part as Christian laymen, courageously and well. And once again the laymen shall have undergirded another phase of the total program of the church.

FOREIGN STUDENTS ENTERTAINE

A sign was seen in a Carna shop window "Carnation Enterta The World." It was almost that w twenty-three foreign exchange dents from the University of Wa ington alighted from their bus on afternoon of August 22 at the grim House in Carnation for t came from six different countr all the way from Finland to Indi

They were not "entertained" the recreational sense of the w They had come for an overni visit. It was the idea of Rev. Ja Davis, Counselor for Internatio Services, that these students ou to just drop into a rural Ameri community, see how they do thin go to the homes and see how t live. So it was arranged by the c mittee of the Congregational Chu who had the cooperation of women of the Catholic church. T came to the town and were trea by the drug store to American sod etc., went out on the farms, went to the homes, attended chu services and were guests at a c munity potluck. The people of church and town have expres themselves in high terms of visit while Mr. Davis writes, " did a rather careful evaluation the entire program and the exp ence in Carnation was rated highest in the students esti tions."

One interesting aftermath—a C nation boy in Japan is being ent tained in a fine Japanese home, the host discovered that her gu came from the town where her was stationed. The guest wr home and now the boy's father invited the G.I. from Carnation his home.

News Briefs

For the fourth consecutive year, vember has been designated as eligion in American Life" month. s campaign has been conducted American business through the vertising Council to bring home all Americans the importance of ir religious institutions, and to e them to support and attend the rch or synagogue of their choice. his year's campaign will stress ily worship—parents and children nding services together. Adver- ng messages will carry the gan: "Show them the way—this k!"

* * *

Rev. John Gibson, Associate ister of Olymouth Church, Se- e, served as chairman of the lio Visual Workshop sponsored the Council of Churches the k of October 27—31. This work- p brought to the area three na- al leaders in the field of Audio uals, and provided opportunity persons to become more skilled the operation of equipment and des for the selection and use of erials. The workshop was held Plymouth Church, Seattle.

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ervices of dedication for the sanctuary of the Bellevue Com- nity Congregational Church will held on November 23.

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more complete address for Rev. Mrs. Paul F. Pruitt is P. O. 131, Davao City, Philippine nds.

Clinton E. Ostrander

Dr. Clinton E. Ostrander, Minister of the University Congregational Church, Seattle, is the present chairman of the National Commission on Stewardship. This Commission will have a two day meeting at the Conference Home on November 10 and 11. Rev. Frank Edward of Chicago and The Missions Council will be present for the sessions. The Rev. A. M. Lusk of Fauntleroy Church, Seattle, was elected to this commission at the General Council meeting in June.

* * *

Persons interested in being better informed on the political issues prior to the November election should read the October issue of the Social Action magazine. Also the pamphlet, "What Can Christians Do in 1952?" Both are available from 289 Fourth Avenue.

Junior Highs Like Bible Study

The conversation was lively the day the teachers asked the question "What do you think an intelligent Christian should know about the Bible?"

At a conference with the Director of Christian Education that week the teachers analyzed the answers. These seemed to group themselves into three major areas:

1. **Knowledge of God—the growing concept of God in the Bible, especially in the teachings of the prophets and Jesus.**
2. **Knowledge of the changing concepts of worship as people learned more about God.**
3. **Knowledge of Hebrew history and the relationship of geographic, social and political influences to their developing religious ideas.**

This was powerful thinking for seventh and eighth graders. The teachers accepted the challenge and went to work. The three remaining months of the school year would not be sufficient for a thorough study of all these areas. Then a plan developed. Each teacher agreed to take one major area. The young people would be given an opportunity to elect the area of their choice the following Sunday. Plans and projects were discussed. A class newspaper would serve as a sharing organ.

The class responded quickly the next Sunday, but a group of boys added a fourth area in which they wanted to study—science and the Bible. After a quick conference the teachers decided to pool the groups on Knowledge of God and worship, thus releasing one of the teachers to work on this new area.

What happened? The boys who liked to work with their hands made two excellent relief maps of Palestine to help visualize the geographic, social and polital aspects of Hebrew life. A second group got acquainted with the ideas of God and worship in the Bible. Their particular project was dramatization of these ideas. The third group used a scientific approach. They selected the stories they wanted to study, read them carefully, read all available material about each story in their text (HOW OUR RELIGION BEGAN by E. M. Baxter), in Bible Commentaries, and other sources. With this information they discussed what might have happened (scientifically). The final step, however, with each story was a test of its religious validity. They checked the religious purpose or interpretation of the story that gave it a valid place in the Bible. A class record was kept of all their studies.

The Junior Highs **liked** their Bible study. The teachers? They had to work harder than they ever had before to keep ahead of their eager students—and they learned a lot about the Bible they had never